(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the two major bodies of drug industry have asked the Ministry to speedily dispose of price review applications from various companies, which have been lying uncleared since October, 1989;

(c) what are the main reasons for the delay in the disposal of such applications by the Ministry; and

(d) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d) On receiving a number of representations from various forums on the issues concerning the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 including the steep increase in the prices of the medicines, the new Government decided to review the situation. Government has now started clearing price approval applications.

Indo Soviet cooperation in oil industry

2197. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a protocol was signed at the 8th meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on cooperation in oil industry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of the programme of oil exploration to be undertaken thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The protocol provides for a detailed programme of work in the intensive Integrated Exploration projects in the North Cambay and Cauvery Basins. In the North Cambay Basin, 3100 line kms. of seismic survey has been completed. 20 exploratory wells have been drilled and 2 are under drilling out of 26 envisaged under the project. Further drilling of wells will depend on assessment of commercial viability of the two wells under production testing. In the Cauvery Basin, 20 exploratory wells are to be drilled in the first phase. The protocol also provides for speeding up of pace of data acquisition under the intensive integrated Exploration project for the West Bengal Basin. The protocol also provides for training of Indian experts in the USSR and establishment of a third computer centre at Jorhat. It envisages long-term programme of cooperation between the Research and Development Institutes of the two countries.

Signing of MOU with Maruti Udyog Limited

2198. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maruti Udyog Limited has signed a memorandum of undertaking with Government for the year 1990-91; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Memorandum of Understanding gives the Company's mission, its objectives and contains the operational and financial targets that it has undertaken to achieve along with their evaluation criteria. The MOU also lays down the frequency of evaluation and information flow as well as the Government's commitments.

Vayudoot flights

2199. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of Vaudoot flights being planned for Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) whether it is a fact that there have been frequent cancellation of flights by Vaudoot all over the country;

(c) what steps are being taken to avoid such a situation by introducing back up flights;

(d) what is the total investment in Vayudoot so far; and

(e) what is the project investment in the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Vayudoot has no immediate plan to provide new airlinks in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Flights are concelled only when it is essential to do so for unavoidable reasons, such cancellations are, however, kept to the minimum.

(c) Since acquisition of aircraft to create idle capacity for operating back-up flights' needs very high investment, Vayudoot Limited have provided a cushion in their schedule to take care of such contingencies.

(d) An investment of Rs. 37.70 crores has been made in Vayudoot upto the end of the 7th Plan Period.

(e) The Eighth Plan proposals are yet to be approved.

इंडियन एयरलाइन्स, एयर इंडिया और भारतीय अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय विमान पत्तन प्राधिकरण के अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध केन्द्रीय जांच-ब्यूरो द्वारा जांच किये जा रहे भ्रष्टाचार के मामले

2200. **श्री अजीत जोगी :** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा इस समय इंडियन एयरलाइन्स, भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधकरण और एयर इंडिया के भ्रष्टाचार में अंतर्ग्रस्त कितने वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध जांच की जा रही है ;

(ख) इन जांचों के कब तक पूरा होने की संभावना है ; और

(ग) ऐसे मामलों का ब्यौरा क्या है और उनमें अंतर्ग्रस्त अधिकारियों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं ?

ऊर्जा मंत्री, साथ में नागर विमानन मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री आरिफ मोहम्मद खान) :

(क) इंडियन एयरलाइन्स 1

भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण 7

एयर इंडिया 4

(ख) और (ग) क्योंकि इन मामलों की अभी जांच की जा रही है, अतः इनके विवरणों कत बताना उचित नहीं है ।

Ban on the use of Pan Masala and Zarda in public places

2201. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban the use of Pan Masala and Zarda in public places, in view of the unhygienic conditions created by the users by spitting all around;

(b) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken thereon; and

(c) what are Government's views with regard to imposing a ban on advertisements of all brands of Pan Masala and Zarda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c) The Government is considering introduction of comprehensive anti-tobacco measures which will include tobacco based products.

A notification has been issued under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 laying down standards of pan masala and labelling provisions, stipulating that every packet and advertisement of pan masala shall carry a warning stating 'Chewing of pan masala may be injurious to health'. The notification has been published on 8th March, 1990 and will come into force after six months from the date of Publication.